

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated June 30, 2004, having a shortened statutory period set to expire September 30, 2004. Applicants have amendment claims 6, 13 and 20 and canceled Claims 7, 14 and 21. No new matter has been entered by these amendments.

II. Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 103

On page 3 of the present Office Action, Claims 6-7, 13-14, and 20-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Duffy, et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,911,043). That rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration of the claims is requested.

As amended, independent Claims 6 (and similarly claims 13 and 20) in the present application recites:

...during installation of a communications program subsequent to setting access controls for each communications program within the data processing system as a function of the content label categories and associated user restrictions, checking for existing access control settings for other communications programs and setting access controls for the communications program being installed utilizing the existing access control settings

As recited, this element of the independent claims requires “checking” for existing access control settings, and “setting” access controls for the communication program being installed. *Duffy* neither teaches nor suggests these steps of the present invention.

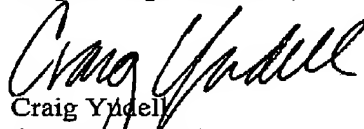
As admitted by the Examiner on page 6 of the present invention, *Duffy's* system and method does not describe these steps of the present invention. While the Examiner states that it would have been obvious to modify *Duffy* by “using the existing access control settings when a new version of browser or email application is installed in order to avoid the step of resetting the access control” such a modification of *Duffy* is not consistent with the operation of the *Duffy* system. Instead, client 14 is not updated when a new communication program is installed on the computer. Client 14 operates through retrieve module 18, rate module 20, rating rules database 22, access rate file 24, rate file 42 and screen module 44 to rate and screen documents. As explained at col. 4, ln 38-41, input module 42 and rate module 20 access the rate file 24 and database 40 to supplement, add, delete or otherwise modify document ratings contained in rate

file 42. The user ratings corresponding to the rating categories of documents are what are updated in order to accommodate new documents in the system. Access controls within the individual communication programs are not modified or accessed by any part of the system or methodology taught by *Duffy*. *Duffy* teaches an independent system of rating and screening documents from the actual communication systems used to retrieve the documents.

Stated in another way, as is quite clear from Figure 1 and as explained at col. 5, ll 37-47, the client 14 is a separate component from the processor and memory of computer 50. Client 14 essentially is a hardware element separate and distinct from the computer 50, which prescreens data coming in from network 16 to computer 50. Consequently, client 14 in no way interoperates or accesses any of the communications programs executing on computer 50. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that it is impossible for *Duffy* to be modified in a way suggested by the Examiner to perform the steps of the present invention. If a communication program is being installed on computer 50 nothing within client 14 interacts with the communication program to set its access controls. Therefore, *Duffy* is completely devoid of any teaching or suggestion of "checking for existing access control settings for other communication programs and setting access controls for the communications program being installed utilizing the existing access control settings."

The Examiner argues on page 6 of the present Office Action that someone would be motivated to modify the *Duffy* technique by "using" the existing access control settings. However, exemplary claim 6 in the present application does not recite a step of "using" the existing access control settings. Instead, exemplary claim 6 in the present application recites the step of "setting access controls for the communication program." For the reasons given above, Applicants respectfully submit that *Duffy* does not show or suggest the present invention as claimed and that the present rejection should be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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